

many people to lead a more "normal" life. Our job is not done, however, until we have made certain that all people have access to these life-prolonging medications.

The work we were able to accomplish in San Francisco for people living with HIV/AIDS is one of my proudest achievements as Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco. In 1981, when there were only 76 diagnosed cases, we provided \$180,000 for prevention and social services for people living with HIV/AIDS. These were some of the first public funds allocated for AIDS in the United States. In 1987, during my last full year as mayor, 20,000 AIDS deaths were reported in San Francisco and we increased funding to \$20 million. There was no federal Ryan White program then; I struggled to find this money in the city budget. Fortunately, for cities and States across the country, we now have the Ryan White CARE Act.

I pledge to do all I can to eliminate AIDS. As I have said time and time again: I was there in the beginning and I plan to be there in the end. In the meantime, we must make certain that the uninsured and under-insured have access to life-prolonging HIV treatments. The Ryan White CARE Act has proven to be an essential and effective Federal program for the uninsured and under-insured. We must ensure the continuation of the Ryan White CARE Act.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, June 6, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,647,513,754,741.07 (Five trillion, six hundred forty-seven billion, five hundred thirteen million, seven hundred fifty-four thousand, seven hundred forty-one dollars and seven cents).

Five years ago, June 5, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,904,369,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred four billion, three hundred sixty-nine million).

Ten years ago, June 5, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,127,273,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred twenty-seven billion, two hundred seventy-three million).

Fifteen years ago, June 5, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,776,407,000,000 (One trillion, seven hundred seventy-six billion, four hundred seven million).

Twenty-five years ago, June 5, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$524,448,000,000 (Five hundred twenty-four billion, four hundred forty-eight million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,123,065,754,741.07 (Five trillion, one hundred twenty-three billion, sixty-five million, seven hundred fifty-four thousand, seven hundred forty-one dollars and seven cents) during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

STAFF SERGEANT ANA V. ORTIZ

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a well-respected and remarkable public servant, Staff Sergeant Ana V. Ortiz, who has been chosen to receive the 2000 National Image Salute to Hispanics Award. Not only is Staff Sergeant Ortiz an upstanding and dedicated member of the Connecticut Air National Guard, but she is also the principal of the Betances Elementary School in Hartford and an active and vital member of her community.

Staff Sergeant Ortiz has dedicated nine years of service to the Connecticut Air National Guard, displaying the qualities of a natural leader and setting an example for others to follow. She participated in three Air Force contingency operations that have sent her around the world. In 1996, she supported Operation Decisive Endeavor in Italy; 1998 found her in Panama playing a role in Constant Vigil; and just last year she worked in Southwest Asia for Operation Guarded Skies. Staff Sergeant Ortiz previously attended the Air National Guard Diversity Conference, as well as the National Guard Bureau's National Diversity Program. A vocal advocate for diversity within the Air National Guard, she worked to build a solid foundation for minorities in the military, as well as a better understanding of the armed forces among both minorities and non-minorities. Her work in the Guard has earned her the Armed Forces Reserve Medal and two Air Force Achievement Medals.

Although her military feats are impressive, Staff Sergeant Ortiz is further known for her strong commitment to the Hartford schools and community. As the principal of Betances Elementary School she keeps actively involved with her students and community. Staff Sergeant Ortiz is a member of the Language Arts Committee for the State of Connecticut, and a contributor to the Center for Youth After-School Programs, the Center City Churches, and the Charter Oak Cultural Center. She also encourages and maintains a partnership program with suburban schools in the surrounding area, and is constantly working to improve education and educational opportunities for her students.

Ms. Ortiz' commitment to her students extends far beyond the school grounds. She was selected to serve on the Hartford Police Department Task Force for students at risk in the community, which strives to encourage children to find positive ways to overcome the dangers of drugs and violence that face our communities today. Furthermore, Ms. Ortiz is actively involved in protecting Connecticut's park attractions through her membership on the board of directors of the Bushnell Park Foundation, again promoting the well-being of her school children, as well as the entire community.

Ms. Ortiz' professional achievements are matched by an impressive educational background. She earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Education with an English major from Central University in Puerto Rico, a Masters degree in Reading from the University of Hartford, and a six year degree in Supervision and Administration from the University of Connecticut. Her wide range of expertise has enabled her to better excel in all aspects of her life, and the surrounding community has clearly benefitted as a result.

Staff Sergeant Ortiz strives to make the world a better place for all—through her military service, community work, and involvement with Connecticut schools. Her dedication and commitment appear to be boundless, and she is wholly deserving of the 2000 National Image Salute to Hispanics Award. Staff Sergeant Ortiz will travel to San Juan, Puerto Rico on Thursday, June 8, 2000 to receive her prestigious award.●

RETIREMENT OF RICHARD W. CANNON

• Mr. L. CHAFEE. Mr. President, on June 16th, family, friends and colleagues will gather to honor Richard W. Cannon, who has served the Social Security Administration for 39 years, and is retiring as District Manager of the Providence, RI office.

Mr. Cannon has demonstrated an exemplary record of service to New England and the Social Security Administration (SSA). He began his career with SSA as a Claims Representative in the Pawtucket, RI office in September, 1961. He quickly rose through the ranks, receiving promotions to field Representative, Operations Supervisor, Branch Manager, Assistant District Manager, and finally to District Manager by 1976. He has held the position of District Manager for 24 years in three offices: New London, CT; Cambridge, MA; and since May 1987, Providence.

Not only has Rhode Island benefited from Richard's services, but regions across the country have as well. He served stints in Social Security Administration offices in New York, California, and Hawaii. But, it has been our good fortune that he continues to return to his home state of Rhode Island.

He has shared his knowledge and expertise not only with his office colleagues, but with members of the Rhode Island Federal Executive Council, which he led as chairman for two years, and the New England Social Security Managers Association, where he also held office.

Lest we think that Richard's life was dedicated solely to the Social Security Administration, he also enjoys the outdoors. I have it on good authority that he can often be seen leaving his home in Snug Harbor to cruise the waters of Narragansett Bay, hoping to entice a fish or two to join him in his boat.

As Richard prepares for his private life away from the duties of his terribly